Bulgaria EE1
Slavic Peoples E16
Serbs EF6

The typical form is shown by a house of the village of Zlanozene of the Berkof district, built in 1890 (Fig. 41) «In these areas», says Zlatev (p. 98), «southward and northward of the Haimos, in the plain or even in the mountains, this house is the normal type used. The portico here appears in various forms and positions, depending on the construction, which is here primitive and without any particular sense of shape». Part of the space under the portico has been enclosed with oak-tree boards and it is used as a pig-sty. The walls of the ground-floor are made of stone, and those of the upper floor of daubed wicker-work (Bulg.: pletarka). The floor of the upper storey is made of oak planks, roughly planed, and plastered with a thick layer of clay. Windows are few and small, and thus results a poor lighting in the house. The height of the basement is of 2 metres, and that of the upper floor 2 - 2.5 metres. The portico, formed on the frontage and called «islak» (Greek: ἡλιακός), appears as a non-organic part, attached to the main body, although its roof is a part of the whole roof of the house. It is mainly used for the drying of fruits [1]).

B 342
B [231]
B [354]
B [251]

The need to house a large family, as e.g. the so-called zadruga, created a difficult problem which remained architecturally unsolved in the case of the Serbs and the other Slavs: the young people and the young couples sleep in separate small buildings (vajat, klijet, staja or koliba from the Greek καλύβη = hut) which are constructed alongside or around the family house (called kuć'a), having no hearth and being also used as a stable or a store house [2]). The number of klijeti existing round the kuć'a gives the number of couples living in that cluster [3]). As for the Bulgarians, this problem has been solved through the following two methods: 1. By the addition of rooms, in direct organic connection with the original region of the hearth. 2. By the unification of two independent bipartite or tripartite houses through covered entrances or corridors.

See SL
[342]
[592]
[513]

The first method is shown by the house in the village Zabel (Zlatev, fig. 16), one of the oldest houses in NW Bulgaria, which, «some

B [592]

1) It is interesting to note the nomenclature of each part of the wooden house in W. Bulgaria, which is often similar to that used in Thessaly and Epirus (Zlatev, p. 101, fig. 86) 1. Temel (θεμέλιον) = the basis of the post. 2. Direk = the post. 3. Gredi = (γρεντιά) beam. 4. Pope (παπάς = priest) (cf. **G. Megas**, Θεσσαλ. Οἰκήσεις p. 20).

2) See **J. Cvijić**, La Peninsule Balkanique, Paris, 1918, p. 233 and foll.

3) See **L. Niederle**, Manuel de l'antiquité Slave, Vol. 2 Paris 1926, p. 109.

9:Megas I, B-5, 4 (no date) 1951 EH1 Greece
Yugoslavia EF1
Slavic Peoples E16
Serbs EF6

Another characteristic of the Slav house, the «kleti», a small separate building, that was originally constructed by the Slavs near their own house, without any hearth, and was used as a store-room and at the same time as stable and as bedroom for young couples, it exists in the Serb houses, as well as in the Russian ones. This is a proof that the Jugoslav were aware of its existence already in the 6th and 7th centuries, when they arrived at the Greek peninsula. This space appears, even to-day, either as a store-room, or a chamber without any hearth, to be used especially by married members of the family. Thus in the Serb farm-houses belonging to one zadruga, one may count as many klijets i.e. small wooden buildings round the family kuc'a, as there are couples in the family.

From the above we may conclude that, when establishing themselves on this side of the Danube in lands of the Byzantine empire, the Jugoslavs knew only the simpler, the primitive forms of Slav houses and consequently the entire evolution which is shown by the Jugoslav house, especially in the purely Serb countries, has been accomplished on Balkan soil under the influence of the building methods in use in the Balkan peninsula from ancient times.

We have already said that Cvijic' distinguishes a type of Greco-mediterranean house which «probably originates from the old Byzantine houses». «We can also see this house», he writes, «in all the Koutsovlach villages, even in the ones with a continental climate, as well as in the Slav populations of Mijaci and Mavrovci, at the centre of the peninsula».

According to Cvijic', «the Greco-mediterranean house differs slightly or not at all from the house of the Vardar district (maison vardarienne) for which it is used as the model (le prototype)». The same may be said of the Morava valley house (maison moravienne) whose one component, the portico (auvent), has the obviously Greek name doksat (Greek δοξάρος) while this same component, more to the South, in the Vardar district, is called by another Greek name: krevet (Greek κρεββάτι)(1). As we have seen, even the first of the additions to the kuc'a, namely the place where various articles are kept, is called

1) J. Cvijic' op. cit. p. 224 Cf. the κρεββάτια of the houses of Ambelakia, Rapsani, Arta etc. (G. Megas, Θεσσ. Οἰκ., pp. 86 foll., 95 foll. and the δοξάτον of the Kastoria noble houses (A. Orlandos, Ἀρχεῖον Βυζαντ. Μνημ. Ἑλλάδος B p. 181 foll. p. 196 foll.).